

## PROJECT SUMMARY

**County:** Sierra Nevada region

**Applicant:** Sierra Business Council

**Project Title:** Sierra Nevada Carbon Cooperative

### PROJECT GOAL

The purpose of the Sierra Nevada Carbon Cooperative (SNCC) is to capture the opportunity for the Sierra Nevada to mitigate and adapt to climate change in a way that promotes ecological integrity and brings economic prosperity to the region. By reducing barriers to and risks of participating in emerging markets for ecosystem services, SNCC provides the scaffolding for Sierra landowners and conservation organizations to build revenue to protect and restore forestlands in the Sierra Nevada. By protecting Sierra forests, we maintain the earth's natural ability to reduce greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, while creating a new forest economy in the Sierra Nevada that is based on conservation and restoration of the region's natural assets.

### PROJECT SCOPE

The proposed project outlines the second phase of the SNCC Program. Over the course of three years, we will develop between six and eight forest projects covering at least 5000 acres of forestland in the Sierra Nevada. These projects will result in the sequestration of at least 1 million metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub> and over \$10 million in payments for forest conservation and stewardship activities in the Sierra Nevada. To accomplish this, SBC will work with land trusts, landowners, local government, and other conservation partners working in the Sierra Nevada. In developing the forest projects, we aim to develop a portfolio of diverse project types (avoided conversion, reforestation, and conservation management), forest types and sizes, and geographical locations. At least three of the projects will be developed in the Northern Sierra Partnership area (between Lake Tahoe and Mt. Lassen), working with the Truckee Donner Land Trust, the Feather River Land Trust, The Nature Conservancy, and the Trust for Public Land. From this diverse portfolio of projects, we will establish a buffer pool to insure projects against carbon losses due to fire, pest or pathogen outbreaks, or other catastrophic events.

The projects will follow the most current CCAR Forest protocols; they will be registered in the Climate Reserve administered by CCAR; and they will be verified by a third-party CCAR-approved verifier. Sierra Business Council will closely follow and engage in the development and implementation of state and national climate policy to ensure that the Sierra Nevada region can play a key role in climate solutions. The project also includes education and outreach for students, resource managers, and conservation professionals in the Sierra Nevada covering science, policy, and legal issues pertaining to forest carbon sequestration. Total project costs over three years will be \$731,244. Matching funds committed for the program include \$150,000 from the Northern Sierra Partnership and \$241,244 committed from SBC's future earned income plus at least \$60,000 in-kind support from project participants. Land conservation and carbon sequestration work hand-in-hand. The total project cost, however, will not include direct funding for land conservation (purchasing land in fee or conservation easements). The project funds will cover the full development, registration, and marketing of verifiable forest carbon projects. The project funding will leverage additional funding for conservation, restoration, and healthy forest management at 10 - 20 times the initial investment, providing a long-term private revenue stream for ecosystem and watershed health in the Sierra Nevada.

## LETTERS OF SUPPORT

- 1) Northern Sierra Partnership including Resources Legacy Foundation, The Nature Conservancy, Trust for Public Land, Truckee Donner Land Trust, and Feather River Land Trust
- 2) Sierra Cascade Land Trust Council
- 3) Placer Land Trust
- 4) California Climate Action Registry
- 5) The Gateway Mountain Center
- 6) Truckee High School

## SNC PROJECT DELIVERABLES AND SCHEDULE

DETAILED PROJECT DELIVERABLES	TIMELINE
Grant Agreements Signed	February 2009
Select Projects	March 2009 – March 2011
Policy Engagement and Involvement	March 2009 – March 2012
Develop Projects	May 2009 – March 2012
Education and Outreach	April 2009 – December 2011
Media and Marketing Strategy	April 2009 – March 2012
Establish Buffer Pool	May 2009 – June 2010
Submit Grant Report #1	August 2009
Submit Grant Report #2	February 2010
Submit Grant Report #3	August 2010
Submit Grant Report #4	February 2011
Submit Grant Report #5	August 2011
Final Grant Report Submitted	March 2012
Final Payment Request	March 2012

## SNC PROJECT COSTS

PROJECT BUDGET CATEGORIES	TOTAL SNC FUNDING
Task 1. Select Projects	\$88,120
Task 2. Develop Projects	\$381,150
Task 3. Education and Outreach	\$71,724
Task 4. Policy Engagement and Involvement	\$60,310
Task 5. Media and Marketing Strategy	\$56,980
Task 6. Establish Buffer Pool	\$72,960
SUBTOTAL	\$731,244
MATCHING FUNDS	\$411,244
<b>SNC GRANT TOTAL</b>	<b>\$320,000</b>